

**Nonpublic School Advisory Committee Agenda**  
**February 9, 2016**  
**Grimes State Office Building – State Board Room**  
**1:00 p.m.**

Facilitator: David Tilly

Members in Attendance: Kim Hermesen, Julie Delaney, Merrilee Sump, Wayne Dykstra,  
Jerry Deegan

Department of Education: Eric Heitz, Kimberly Villotti, Rita Martens, Phil Wise, Kris  
Kilibarda, Stefanie Wager, Colleen Anderson, Nicole Proesch

Guests: Dan Ryan, Lee Morrison, Joan Thompson, Tracy Bonday

**Preschool Update (Kimberly Villotti)**

- Department and DHS met in January about PK requirements and will have two follow-up meetings this spring.
- The Department and DHS advise best practice is that all 3-year old preschools should be licensed by DHS. If those 3-year old programs want to accept students with IEP's then they would already be DHS licensed AND have to meet additional Department requirements including curriculum, program standards, and having a licensed teacher.

**Condition of Education Report (Jay Pennington)**

- Some measures include nonpublic information.
  - ACT: They will use State Reports from ACT-unclear.
  - Biennium: Does include nonpublic information.
  - Graduation Rate: Does not include nonpublic information.
  - AP: Does not include nonpublic information.

**Smarter Balanced Update (Dave Tilly & Colleen Anderson)**

- Where are we with large-scale assessment decisions?
  - House File 215 from 2013 is the new law that assessment for reading, math, and science for 3-11, has to be in last quarter of the school year, aligned with Iowa Core standards.
  - The science assessment for next year won't be SBAC and there currently aren't any well-aligned assessments out there. Most of the 15 other states with New Generation Science Standards are still using what they used to. In Iowa, we can't do that because the current Iowa Assessment test is at its' sunset. The Department will likely do a short interim recommendation for next year. It might be recommended that just 3 grades be assessed for the interim.
  - Rules were written but a legislative rules sub-committee has placed a "session delay" about the authority on who selects the state assessment.

- Possible outcomes:
  - The delay gets lifted when legislature gavel out. Lack of action on their part is actually “action”. The rules have been written and approved but on delay.
  - They could clarify code on who gets to make the decision.
  - They could change code and write in assessment w/ ACT Aspire, Iowa Assessment New Generation, or SBAC.
- There has been some misconception about the selection process and the total cost (when you consider cost for secondary assessments.)
- SBAC does have a paper/pencil option that would not be adaptive for a higher cost (ie: Amish students).
- Schools have access to resources at [www.smarterbalanced.org](http://www.smarterbalanced.org)
- All other decisions on SBAC are on hold. If it's SBAC then there will be a study of all technology in school buildings and training materials for professional development will be made available.
- Delivery models would be to work through AEA or train a trainer. There would be multiple methods. Schools should hold some PD time for the new assessment.
- There will be training for teachers and for technology staff on using SBAC Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE), administering the assessment, and accessing reports.
- There will also be support with the Department and vendor helpdesk.

#### **State Standards Update (Rita Martens, Kris Kilibarda, Stefanie Wager)**

- Kris Kilibarda is the new Department science consultant. All schools have received a copy of the Science Implementation Guide with the four-year timeline.
  - Year 1 focus is on getting teachers to the AEA trainings for exploration and capacity building.
  - Year 2 will focus on classroom transitions, shifts, and practices. This should include looking at scope and sequence (such as Earth Science in High Schools).
  - Year 3 focus is on leveraging partnerships, analysis, and development. Right now there are not a lot of well-aligned materials available for purchase. Schools should consider delaying science purchases.
  - Year 4 focus is on continued development and assuring access for all students.
- Rita Martens is on the Literacy Standards Review committee per Executive Order 83 for review of academic standards.
  - They are reviewing existing standards and levels of implementation of literacy standards. A report will be released in Fall 2016.
  - Mandy Haefs from St. Patrick Elementary School in Sheldon is representing nonpublic schools.

- Stefanie Wager is the social studies consultant working on writing standards.
  - There were three reasons based on a study including a need for better standards, frustration that Social Studies hasn't had a place of more importance, and need for more resources for professional development.
  - There are two nonpublic representatives on this committee (Julie Bauer from Diocese of Davenport and Jeff Fergeson from Dowling.)
  - The hope is that standards could be brought before the State Board of Education for possible adoption in Spring 2017.
  - Stephanie has a listserv for social studies teachers and people can request to be on this listserv.

#### **Legislative Update/Rulemaking Progress (Phil Wise)**

- The first funnel date is a week from Thursday so there are many subcommittee meetings right now.
- Bill on K-3 reading teachers' licensure to better assure the background of those teachers includes more preparation for students with disabilities was explained. This is related to the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade retention law that takes effect May 2017.
- The department will provide guidance on which students are eligibility for retention/summer school and whether nonpublic students will be included in this guidance.
- There are currently no funds for summer school nor funds for SBAC.
- There was a session delay on SBAC rules. The Catholic superintendents did not receive Director Wise's January email and his administrative assistant has been notified.
- Some legislation was proposed to change New Generation Science standards but that bill has been killed.

#### **Department Updates (Dave Tilly & Nicole Proesch)**

- School Safety Committee: Nicole Proesch is on the School Safety Committee and Tracy Bonday will be joining the committee. The focus is on low-cost options for school safety. Their website has bulletins that can be used by schools.

- ESSA: Dave Tilley attended a workshop in Washington D.C. recently about the new 1400 report. A team of bureau chiefs and department heads will meet weekly to coordinate the various aspects of ESSA. There will also be advisory groups. There will be letters to the field as decisions are made.
  - Several themes/items include:
    - States can't be required to adopt Common Core to access funds.
    - Limited federal authority to require items.
    - No longer a one size fits all federal accountability method. Individual states can make decisions about what accountability measures work best for them.
    - The Department has 18 months to rethink how accountability will be handled in Iowa and this time of transition.
    - 51% of accountability measures have to be academic in nature. (Other items such as school climate could be added.)
    - Several items have been removed such as school choice for SINA schools.

#### **Future Items:**

- Next meeting we should look at various aspects to determine which categories may apply to us.
- Ombudsman: One part of ESSA that Catholic schools can begin planning for today is the new role of Ombudsman (pgs. 71, 72, 308). This position, appointed at the state level, is intended to ensure equitable treatment of private school students, especially in the consultation process. Any agreement reached through consultation must be sent to the Ombudsman.
- How can nonpublic schools get representation on ESSA advisory committees for topics that apply to us? What will this process look like? How can we effectively provide feedback?

**Next Meeting: May 10, 2016 at 1:00 pm**